

ILRI East and Southeast Asia newsletter

Issue 3, January–June 2018

ILRI corporate report 2016 - 2017 now available: investing in sustainable development

The Board of Trustees, management and staff of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) take great pleasure in announcing the publication of the ILRI corporate report 2016–2017. Each chapter in the report outlines how research for development approaches—undertaken by an array of national and international private, public and research partners—have brought tangible benefits to low-and middle-income countries and communities, and offer lessons for adoption more broadly for livestock producers, marketers and farmers elsewhere.

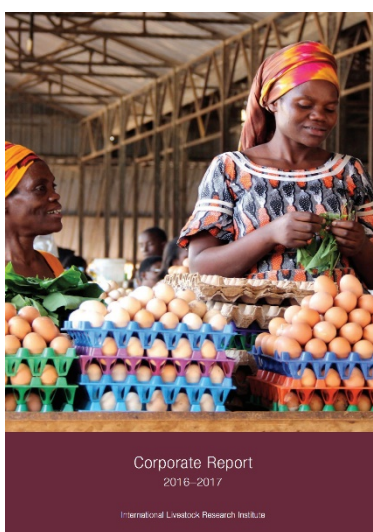
The report provides examples of how ILRI and its many partners are helping to meet specific SDGs. These include in reducing incidence and impact of livestock diseases; increasing household incomes; improving food safety; ensuring greater gender equity and inclusive growth; breeding climate-smart as well as more productive livestock; mitigating livestock-generated greenhouse gas emissions; and enabling policies and partnerships for a healthy, safe, sustainable and equitable livestock sector.

By working closely with national and international research, the private-sector, government and non-governmental organizations in providing evidence to decision-makers, ILRI is facilitating the adoption at scale of science-based livestock practices and building capacities of key stakeholders. In furthering better lives through livestock, the outcomes of our research-for-development approach—the scientific evidence, proven technologies and development pathways—directly contribute to meeting the SDGs.

None of our achievements would be possible without this broader community of gifted and dedicated livestock-for-development workers.

The collective achievements outlined in this report are a testimony to all those who have invested their resources in helping capitalize on the 'livestock revolution', ensuring sustainable livestock development can do much more than produce more food, it can nourish the world's populations and drive equitable and broad-based economic growth.

Over the course of the next month, chapters of this report, each highlighting how ILRI and its many partners are helping to meet specific SDGs—no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, gender equity, decent employment and growth, responsible production, climate action, life on the land and partnership—will be published on this blog, with links to articles for the reader to dig further into each specific issue. So, delve into the full report now or wait to read the individual chapters in the coming weeks.



Corporate Report
2016–2017

International Livestock Research Institute

(By James Stapleton, ILRI)



Welcome to the third edition of ILRI East and Southeast Asia newsletter!

We hope to share a newsletter with you every six months to give you, our donors, partners and colleagues timely updates on ILRI's ongoing research activities, news and events in the region. I hope you will enjoy reading it and thank you for supporting ILRI East and Southeast Asia over the past years and in future.

Learn more about our work at www.asia.ilri.org. If you have any feedback please contact ilri-vietnam@cgiar.org.

Hung Nguyen-Viet
ILRI regional representative
for East and Southeast Asia

Institutional updates

CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health planning and management committee meeting

The biannual meeting of the planning and management committee for the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH) was held in Hanoi in March to find ways to help ensure that the dietary shift and changes lean towards nutritious, safe, and affordable food for consumers and producers alike.



A4NH team gathers outside a market in Hanoi (photo credit: ILRI/Chi Nguyen).

Myanmar and ILRI meetings seek to cement cooperation in livestock development

In April 2018, a series of meetings between ILRI and Myanmar officials strengthened existing engagements and explored new opportunities to support livestock development in the country. ILRI scientists met partners from Department of Livestock Veterinary and Breeding, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, University of Veterinary Science, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund, Deutsche Gesellschaft for International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). In the coming months, ILRI researchers will work with Myanmar officials to identify projects and funding sources that can leverage ILRI's longer-term presence in the country.

CGIAR and China: further collaboration in advancing agricultural research

In June, ILRI scientists Tom Randolph and Han Jianlin participated in a workshop on 'International mega programmes – lessons to learn' at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) campus in Beijing. CAAS had invited the CGIAR System Management Office and a number of CGIAR research program (CRP) directors, together with representatives of other organizations involved in international research, to participate in the workshop to help CAAS in shaping their plans to increase China's involvement in international agricultural research. Randolph, who is director of the CGIAR Research Program on Livestock and Agri-food Systems, presented on the CRP, the challenge of integrating capacity development in research efforts, and the lessons learned from CRPs. They participated in a review of concept notes for three mega programs being considered for Chinese funding, and advised on how the livestock research agenda could be better reflected.

Project updates

New project to tackle antimicrobial resistance in Vietnam's pig sector

The Health and Antibiotics in the Vietnamese Pig Production Project or VIDAPIG was launched in March. The two-year project will assess veterinary health management and veterinary drug use in Vietnamese pig farms. It is funded by the Danish government and will be implemented from February 2018 to January 2020 in Bac Ninh Province.



From left: Hung Nguyen, ILRI regional representative for East and Southeast Asia, Anders Dalsgaard from the University of Copenhagen, Pham Thi Ngoc, deputy director of the National Institute of Veterinary Research and Le Danh Tuyen, director of the National Institute of Nutrition. From left (behind), Katja Majbom Goodhew, commercial counsellor at the Danish Embassy in Vietnam and Chu Van Chuong, deputy director of International Cooperation Department of the Vietnam Ministry of Agriculture (photo credit: ILRI/Chi Nguyen).

Project on safer indigenous pork in Vietnam

This project kicked off in March in Hoa Binh Province. Building on the existing One Health partnership with two key Vietnamese research partners, the Vietnam National Institute of Veterinary and the Hanoi University of Public Health; and two German partners, the Free University Berlin, and the Institute for Risk Assessment, the project will provide targeted producers, traders and consumers in study sites with better knowledge on pork zoonoses, then design feasible interventions to reduce them. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development.



While indigenous pigs generate more income to local people it is a host of pathogens posing unsafety to consumers (photo credit: ILRI/Vu Ngoc Dung).

Strengthening use of One Health approaches in government ministries in Laos

A meeting on 30 May in Vientiane, reflected on the achievements of One Health research interfacing cross-sectoral collaboration and ways of advancing the work of a One Health platform in Laos. The meeting discussions

focused on identifying ways of supporting the One Health partnership in Laos including by starting a review of antimicrobial resistance in farms, establishing specific working groups to cover specific One Health issues and enhancing transdisciplinary approaches.

ILRI strengthens forage research collaboration with Chinese institutes

ILRI scientists Xianglin Li, Jianlin Han, Chris Jones and Jean Hanson attended the workshop on Alfalfa Biology on 26 March 2018 in Beijing. The workshop was jointly organized by the Forage Germplasm team of the Institute of Animal Sciences (IAS-CAAS) and the ILRI China team as a part of a joint IAS-ILRI project funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China. Scientists from various research institutes and universities presented findings on forage research and development. Li, Jones and Hanson later visited Lanzhou University in northwest China to discuss potential collaboration and attend a workshop on forage development. In both workshops Jones presented the feed and forage developments at ILRI and Hanson presented the activities of ILRI forage genebank. Potential collaborative research activities on forage diversity characterization and utilization were discussed with the Chinese scientists.

Capacity development

Capacity development in the SafePORK project

The 'Market-based approaches to improving the safety of pork in Vietnam' or SafePORK project hosted two PhD students, Nguyen Huyen from the Vietnam National University of Agriculture and Dang Sinh from the Hanoi University of Public Health. In February, Sinh successfully defended his thesis at Rakuno University, Japan. The project has also been hosting international masters students from the United Kingdom (Eleanor Clark, Kim Sunghwan), Australia (Marisa Mitchell) and one undergraduate from Japan (Taikigasuru Yamagami).

Bridging the gender gap in livestock projects in Vietnam and Cambodia

Two training workshops were held in January 2018 for 30 researchers from the Safe Food, Fair Food for Cambodia and SafePORK projects on how to integrate gender in livestock value chains in projects supported by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) in Vietnam, and the United States Agency for International Development in Cambodia.

Continued collaboration between ILRI and Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Under the umbrella of the Veterinary Public Health Centre for Asia Pacific (VPHCAP) and the One Health EcoHealth Resource Center of the Chiang Mai University, support for VPHCAP MSc students has been continued and co-funded by A4NH. During a recent visit to the university by Fred Unger, senior scientist at ILRI and VPHCAP co-student adviser, two more VPHCAP MSc students defended their thesis on relevant public health issues for the region. This included Nurochmah Ishiyama and Minh Vu Dung who are researching antimicrobial resistance in dairy farms (Yogyakarta, Indonesia) and *Campylobacter* in chicken (Hanoi, Vietnam), respectively.

Training on food safety risk assessment in Cambodia

Hosted by the Safe Food, Fair Food for Cambodia project, a training on 'Food safety risk assessment for informal value chains' was held in January 2018 in Phnom Penh. About 40 participants were introduced to quantitative risk assessment including basics of hazards and risk assessment and risk communication and different frameworks for risk assessment. The training was co-hosted by the Cambodia National Animal Health and Production Research Institute, ILRI and the World Health Organization.



SafePORK researchers discuss gender exercises in the training held in Hanoi (photo credit: Vietnam National University of Agriculture).

Recent publications

Following are some recent publications of ILRI East and Southeast Asia. To see the full list, please visit our webpage at www.asia.ilri.org

- **Hu, S. L., Vu, D. T., Dang, D. A., Tran, N. D., Mihye, L., Grace, D. and Nguyen-Viet, H. 2018.** Geographical and temporal patterns of rabies post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) incidence in humans in the Mekong River Delta and Southeast Central Coast regions in Vietnam from 2005 to 2015. *PLOS ONE* 13(4): e0194943.
- Lam, S., Giang, P. and **Nguyen-Viet, H. 2018.** Emerging health risks from agricultural intensification in Southeast Asia: A systematic review. *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*.
- Lie, H., **Rich, K. M.**, van der Hoek, R. and Dizyee, K. 2018. Quantifying and evaluating policy options for inclusive dairy value chain development in Nicaragua: A system dynamics approach. *Agricultural Systems* 164, 193-222.
- Yahui, G, Mathieu, G., Xiangdong, D., Hao, Z., Yachun, W., Xi, W., MD Omar, F., Junya, L., Shaohui Y., Xiao, G., Jian-Lin, H, Johannes A. L. and Yi Z. 2017. Species composition and environmental adaptation of indigenous Chinese cattle. *Scientific Reports*, 7, 16196. DOI:10.1038/s41598-017-16438-7.
- **Chauhan, A.S., George, M.S., Chatterjee, P., Lindahl, J., Grace, D.** and Kakkar, M. The social biography of antibiotic use in smallholder dairy farms in India. *Antimicrobial Resistance & Infection Control*, 7, 60, 2018.
- **Unger, F., Nguyen-Viet, H., Grace, D.,** Pham Van, H., Nguyen, D. N., Nguyen, T. T. H., Pham Duc P., Tran Thi T., Hanh, D. X. S. and Tran Thi N. 2018. Food safety in the smallholder pig value chain in Vietnam: Understanding complexities and adjusting policies. *ILRI Policy Brief* 24. Nairobi, Kenya: ILRI

Staff updates

We welcome the following staff:

- **Johanna Lindahl**, veterinary epidemiologist, relocated to the ILRI Hanoi office in April.
- **Nguyen Thi Chin** joined the ILRI Vietnam team as a custodian/cleaner in May
- **Marisa Mitchell** from Australian Volunteers International joined ILRI Vietnam team as a volunteer in June. She will work with ILRI for one year.

We said good-bye to **Lucy Lapar**, agricultural economist and **Randall Ritzema**, systems analyst.

New projects

- **Targeted surveillance for H7N9 avian influenza in northern Vietnam**, funded by United States Department of Defense Global Emerging Infectious Surveillance in collaboration with the Duke University and Vietnam National Institute of Veterinary Research (2018-2019)

Upcoming events

- 4–5 September 2018: Safe Food, Fair Food for Cambodia project annual meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 17–28 September 2018: Antimicrobial stewardship workshops in Thai Nguyen, Vietnam. The research is a collaboration between ILRI, the University of Queensland, Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry, Vietnam National University of Agriculture and the Hanoi University of Public Health.
- 1–10 November 2018: A training session for ILRI scientist and students (about 30 participants are expected) on data analyses and epidemiological methods led by Ian Dohoo, a leading veterinary epidemiologist, will be organized prior to the 15th International Symposium of Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE 15) in Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 12–16 November 2018: ISVEE 15 will take place in Chiang Mai, Thailand. ILRI supported by A4NH will organize a side session at this event.
- 28–30 November 2018: Livestock Data for Development (LD4D) meeting, Hanoi, Vietnam, with participation of around 40 researchers. ILRI will facilitate the organization of this meeting together with the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and the Roslin Institute.
- 9–15 December 2018: ILRI India and ILRI Vietnam will facilitate an exposure visit for a group of Indian government officers to Vietnam to learn about improved pig systems.

Contact us at ilri-vietnam@cgiar.org



The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) works to improve food and nutritional security and reduce poverty in developing countries through research for efficient, safe and sustainable use of livestock. Co-hosted by Kenya and Ethiopia, it has regional or country offices and projects in East, South and Southeast Asia as well as Central, East, Southern and West Africa. ilri.org



CGIAR is a global agricultural research partnership for a food-secure future. Its research is carried out by 15 research centres in collaboration with hundreds of partner organizations. cgiar.org

ILRI thanks all donors that globally support its work through their contributions to the [CGIAR Trust Fund](#).

Patron: Professor Peter C Doherty AC, FAA, FRS

Animal scientist, Nobel Prize Laureate for Physiology or Medicine—1996

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